

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 7-12 and 17 are presently active in this case. Claims 7 and 10 have been amended by the present amendment.

In the outstanding office action, Figures 1 and 2 were objected to for not being identified as “prior art;” Claims 7, 10, and 11 were objected to as being unclear; and Claims 7-12 and 17 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over “Applicant’s Admitted Prior Art (APA)” in view of United States patent No. 5,668,650 to Mori et al.

In response to the objection to the drawings, Applicants have filed herewith replacement sheets including Figures 1 and 2 identified as “Prior Art.” No further objection to the drawings is anticipated.

In response to the objection to claims 7, 10 and 11, claim 7 has been rewritten to clarify that the recited “connections” are electrical. Claim 7 has also been rewritten to clarify that the second wiring layer is connected to the “sources” of the switching elements. Finally, the recitation “an upper electrode” in claim 7 has been deleted. Likewise, the claim 10 recitation “said upper electrode” has been deleted. In view of these changes, no further objection to claims 7 and 10 is anticipated. Regarding dependent claim 11, Applicant believes that that claim is clear on its face. Hence, no changes have been made thereto. If the examiner disagrees, then the examiner is invited to call the undersigned to discuss this issue.

Briefly recapitulating, the present invention is directed to a wiring configuration for a liquid crystal display suitable for repair. To that end, claim 7 defines a second wiring layer connected to the sources of switching elements, a first wiring layer provided between the array substrate and the second wiring layer and electrically connected to the auxiliary capacity electrode and the second wiring layer, and a third wiring layer electrically connected the pixel electrode and the sources of the switching elements. The second wiring layer is formed on a layer closer to the upper side of the array substrate than the first wiring layer;

however, the first and second wiring layers are electrically connected to each other. As a consequence of this configuration, it is possible to conduct a repair using either the first wiring layer or the second firing layer. That is, according to the present invention, it is possible to conduct a repair even if the defect is found after completion of the array substrate or during fabrication of the array substrate. See page 12 lines 19-28 of the Specification.

The APA neither discloses nor suggests the first wiring layer, the second wiring layer, or the third wiring layer. However, the official action asserts that Mori et al. remedy the deficiencies of the APA. Applicants respectfully traverse. Applicants point out that Mori et al. disclose in Fig. 2 a wiring layer (GE, Lg) between the gate electrode (GE) and the gate line (Lg), a wiring layer connected to the auxiliary electrode (AG), and a wiring layer (SE,CE) between the source electrode (SE) and the capacitance compensation electrode (CE) which are separately provided (i.e., not electrically connected).

The official action asserts that the wiring layer (GE, Lg) corresponds to the second wiring layer, and that the wiring layer (SE, CE) corresponds to the first wiring layer. However, the second wiring layer of the present invention is connected to the source electrodes of the switching elements -- not to the gate electrodes as disclosed in Mori et al.

Further, the first wiring layer of the present invention is electrically connected to the second wiring layer and the auxiliary capacity electrodes. However, the wiring layer (SE, CE) of Mori et al. is provided separately from (i.e., is not electrically connected to) the wiring layer (GE, Lg) which is connected to the auxiliary electrode AG. Consequently, neither the wiring layer (GE, Lg) nor the wiring layer (SE, CE) corresponds to the first wiring layer of the present invention.

Finally, in Mori et al., the wiring layer (GE, Lg) and the wiring layer (SE, CE) are arranged on different layers. However, in the present invention, the first and second wiring layers which are electrically connected to each other and arranged on different layers. That

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is, in the present invention, an insulating layer is arranged between the first wiring layer and the second wiring layer, and the first wiring layer and the second wiring layer are connected by a contact.

For the foregoing reasons, the "APA" is not believed to anticipate or render obvious the subject matter defined by claim 7 when consider in combination with Mori et al.

Consequently, no other issues are believed to be outstanding and hence the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1 and 2. These sheets, which include Fig. 1 and 2, replace the original sheets including Figs. 1 and 2.

Attachment: 2 Replacement Sheets